

Message Text

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43

ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 VOE-00

CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 /059 W

----- 111290

O R 301455Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0001

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS BEIRUT 10491

FOR ORM, VO, NEA/ARN, NEA/EX

ROME AND ATHENS FOR INS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CVIS, LE

SUBJECT: REFUGEES, CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM AT BEIRUT

REF: BEIRUT 6126, 5322 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY. AS BUSY SUMMER ENDS, POST SUBMITS THIS REPORT ON 213 (A) 7 CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM AT BEIRUT. VISIT BY TDY INS OFFICER RESULTED INS ACCEPTANCE LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THEN EXISTING BACKLOG. TWO PROBLEMS REMAIN; (A) LARGE NUMBERS ACCEPTED APPLICANTS STILL WAITING HERE FOR FINAL APPROVAL AND TRANSPORTATION, AND (B) NEW BACKLOG DEVELOPING.

2. TWO VISITS BY INS TDY OFFICER GALLETTA AND ONE VISIT BY INS ATHENS OFFICER PAPPAS WERE MOST WELCOME. BY DATE OF FINAL DEPARTURE, JULY 26, INTERVIEWS GRANTED TO VIRTUALLY ALL APPLICANTS VOLAGS ABLE PRESENT. ACCORDING OUR FIGURES, TOTAL OF 2208 APPLICANTS INTERVIEWED.

3. ALTHOUGH STATISTICS FROM VOLAGS NOT ALWAYS COMPLETELY ACCURATE, FOLLOWING REPRESENTS BEST ESTIMATES CURRENT
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SITUATION:

STATUS OF CASE:	PONTIFICAL	WCC	TOTAL
MISSION			
FULLY APPROVED, AWAITING			
TRANSPORATION	134	280	414
ACCEPTED BY INS IN BEIRUT			
INTERVIEW PENDING FINAL			
INS ATHENS APPROVAL	185	1615	1800
"APPROX."			
PENDING BEIRUT INS INTERVIEW	153	700	853

4. PONTIFICAL MISSION CASES. OF 185 PENDING FINAL APPROVAL, 76 STILL LACK PUBLIC CHARGE ASSURANCES. OF 153 PERSONS WAITING INS BEIRUT INTERVIEW, 19 NOT YET INTERVIEWED BY UNHCR.

5. WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES. OF 1615 WAITING FOR FINAL INS APPROVAL, WCC UNABLE PROVIDE ACCURATE ESTIMATES OF NUMBER WHO HAVE RECEIVED PUBLIC CHARGE ASSURANCES. THEY BELIEVE A HIGH PERCENTAGE DO, CERTAINLY A MAJORITY. WCC ALLEGES THERE ARE NEW APPROXIMATELY 700 PENDING INS INTERVIEW, ALTHOUGH "MOST" OF THESE ARE INDIVIDUALS ORIGINALLY REJECTED BY UNHCR WHO HAVE NOW BEEN RE-EXAMINED AND ACCEPTED.

6. WE AWARE THERE ORIGINALLY SOME DIFFICULTY IN VOLAGS OBTAINING ASSURANCES FOR SUCH LARGE QUANTITIES OF APPLICANTS, BUT THIS DIFFICULTY BEING OVERCOME. IT APPEARS THAT AT LEAST HALF OF 1800 PENDING CASES NOW HAVE ASSURANCES.

7. BIGGEST REMAINING PROBLEM FOR PENDING CASES WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE NON-AVAILABILITY OF VISA NUMBERS. UNDERSTAND INS CONSIDERING ALLOCATING APPROXIMATELY 150 NUMBERS PER MONTH. AT THAT RATE, FULL YEAR WOULD BE REQUIRED TO APPROVE ALL PENDING CASES.

8. OBVIOUSLY, WE ALSO CONCERNED OVER INCREASING NUMBERS OF CASES NOW PENDING INS BEIRUT INTERVIEW. FORTUNATELY, MOST OF THESE ARE OLD CASES, RECENTLY RECONSIDERED FAVORABLY

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BY UNHCR. NEVERTHELESS, SOME DECISION MUST BE REACHED ON THEIR DISPOSITION.

9. WE BELIEVE IT HIGHLY ADVISABLE INS ATHENS OFFICER PAPPAS CONTINUE MAKING BIMONTHLY VISITS BEIRUT SO THAT NEW BACKLOG DOES NOT GET TOO FAR AHEAD OF US. SUCH VISITS WILL ALSO INSURE TIMELY PROCESSING OF USRP ELIGIBLE WHO HAVE IN PAST BEEN AFFORDED PRIORITY TREATMENT.

10. COMMENTS OF ADDRESSEE POSTS REQUESTED.
GODLEY

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